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FORM	

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)				
Fee Transmittal Form	Assignment Papers (for an Application)	After Allowance Communication to Group		
Fee Attached	Drawing(s)	Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences		
Amendment / Response	Licensing-related Papers	Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)		
✗ Office Action	Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	Proprietary Information		
Affidavits/declaration(s)	To Convert a Provisional Application	Status Letter		
Extension of Time Request	Power of Attorney	Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):		
Express Abandonment Reques	Terminal Disclaimer	1) Appendix 1; and 2) Certificate of transmission		
Information Disclosure Stateme		under 37 CFR 1.10; and 3) Return receipt postcard.		
Contified Convert Brigarity	Request for Refund			
Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	Remarks	-		
Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	The Commissioner is hereby authorized credit any overpayments to Deposit Acc			
Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	maintained by Paula D. Morris & Associa			
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT				
Firm	ORE OF AFFEIDANT, AFFORMET, OR	AGENT		
Paula D. Morris, Reg. No. 31,516				
Signature Tank Marin				
Date July 23, 2003				

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date:

Typed or printed name Please see attached certificate of transmission under 37 CFR 1.10

Signature Date

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Application/Control Number: 09/901,364

Art Unit: 1742

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

- 1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-168, 211, 212, 217 and 218, drawn to a method of treating a metal surface, classified in class 148, subclass 274, 278 and 286.
 - II. Claims 169-174, 207-210, 213-216 and 219-238, drawn to a product with a chromium gradient, classified in class 428, subclass 610.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

- 2. Inventions I and II are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the product can be made be a different process such as by simple chromizing.
- During a telephone conversation with Paula Morris on 18 December 2002 a provisional election was made with traverse to prosecute the invention of group I, claims 1-168, 211, 212, 217 and 218. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claims 169-174, 207-210, 213-216 and 219-238 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.